

CLASSIFICATION ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~COUNTRY Poland

REPORT

TOPIC 1. Troops and Military Installations in Danzig (Gdansk)2. Troops in Ortelbourg (Szczecino)

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED

9 September 1954

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REFERENCES

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. Prior to the fall of 1953 the former Reiter Kaserne on the west side of ul. Jakowa, formerly Weiden Gasse, and north of ul. Ulanska in Danzig (Q 55/Y 42) quartered motorized Polish Army troops who allegedly were infantrymen. The installation, whose war damage had been repaired, included two large multi-story quartering buildings, one of which was a large angle-shaped building, and garages and storage sheds. It was occupied to capacity mainly by infantry units. Trucks towing small guns, one band and numerous officers were also frequently observed. The troops leaving the installation were equipped with normal infantry weapons and mortars on small wheels which were pulled by two soldiers. Occasionally, all troops quartered in the installation rode in motor vehicles. Polish officers and their dependents lived in the formerly private apartments on both sides of ul. Chlodna, a side street branching off from ul. Jakowa to the east, which was located near the installation.
2. Prior to November 1953, the former Wieben Kaserne in the southern sector of the city, which was bounded by ul. Rzeznicka in the west and ul. Zabi Kruk in the east, also quartered soldiers of a Polish motorized infantry unit who wore red service color. They belonged to the same unit as the troops quartered in the former Reiter Kaserne, but the former Wieben Kaserne housed fewer enlisted men and more motor vehicles than the other installation. It also included motor vehicle repair shops. Except for the eastern and northern sections, the installation had been destroyed during World War II. Reconstruction activity was observed in 1953.
3. In 1953, soldiers who wore caps with blue bands were quartered in an old permanent long four- or five-story barracks building on the east side of ul. Jakowa opposite the former Reiter Kaserne. Although this installation was occupied to capacity, usual training activities were not observed. Training apparently focused on instruction and indoctrination. All soldiers observed at the installation belonged to young classes. No other billets of KBW (Internal Security) units stationed at Danzig were known. The location of WOP (Border Guard) billets was also unknown. WOP units were allegedly committed in the port area.

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CONFIDENTIAL

- 2 -

25X1

4. Prior to the fall of 1953, the extensive barracks installation in Danzig-Langfuhr, which was bounded by Al. Grunwaldzka, Szymanowskiego, Chrzastowskiego and Skowackiego, quartered several unspecified Polish units. Polish officer candidates, who wore caps with red bands, khaki blouses and long dark-blue fabric trousers with wide red longitudinal stripes, were observed at the installation. Soldiers who wore Army uniform and caps with dark, possibly black, bands, were observed in the large quartering buildings which fronted on Al. Szymanowskiego. Numerous trucks were stored in the area of this barracks section which included the former Train Kaserne. In 1954, the quartering billets on Al. Grunwaldzka still included one large building which was still completely destroyed. Buildings fronting on ul. Skowackiego included one large storage shed, one former stable which had been converted into a garage, and one new movie theater. The use of these installations was not specified.
5. Prior to the fall of 1953, Polish labor service units were quartered in the former Narvik cantonment on the northwest side of Al. Marynarai Polskiej, southwest of Laental (Letnisko). In the summer of 1953 a large cantonment and tent camp on the west side of the road from Danzig to Gdynia (Q 55 Y 44), directly south of Aldershorst (Q 55/Y 44), quartered the 18th Polish Labor Service Brigade. The designation of the Brigade was inscribed with large letters at the yard of honor in the billeting area.
6. No military command agencies stationed at Danzig were known. Polish officers lived in some villas in the northern sector of Zoppot (Q 55/Y 43) near Thalmuehle which were allegedly visited also by Soviet officers. The villas formerly were the residences of one senate president and other top officials of the former Free State of Danzig. Prior to November 1953, no Soviet troops were stationed at and around Danzig.
7. An ammunition depot was located in the former fortified area on Bischofsberg (hill) in the southwestern sector of the city and west of the railroad line which was restricted and guarded by sentries. Prior to the fall of 1953, the military trade center (Wojskowa Centrala Handlowa), which included extensive storage sheds, was located in the installations of the former tea plant at the intersection of the north side of ul. Kliniczna and the east side of ul. Kochanowskiego in Danzig-Langfuhr. In 1952, a burnt-out large multi-story storage building had been reconstructed in this area.
8. In the fall of 1953, the station hospital was located on the west side of ul. Polanki near the so-called 4th Courtyard in the borough of Oliwa. In 1953, three new buildings were attached to the building of the former recreation home of the former Landesversicherungsanstalt Westpreussen (West Prussian State Insurance Agency). The entire compound was used as a hospital.
9. In 1952, a new target range was constructed in the hilly area on the west side of the road from Danzig to Prast (Q 55/Y 41) off the town of Chra (Q 55/Y 42).
10. Prior to November 1953, no Polish tank troops were observed in the station area. All army troops stationed at Danzig were motorized. Numerous military motor vehicles were constantly observed in the streets of the city. They included a great many Polish-made "Lublin" trucks and, in 1953, Polish-made "Star 20" motor vehicles. Other vehicles observed were Soviet-made motor vehicles similar to the US Dodge models, cross-country sedans which were mainly jeeps, German and Soviet sedans, and German special-purpose vehicles such as Hanomag Diesel wrecking trucks.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

- 3 -

25X

and Buessing NAG tank trucks. Military motorcycles which were the Czech Java model were frequently seen in the city area.

11. In the spring of 1953, some tanks of an unknown model were observed in the former Jaeger Kaserne on the north side of the road to Olschienen (R 54/A 03) on the eastern perimeter of Ortelsburg (R 54/E 93). The installation which was undestroyed quartered Polish troops. Source, who had to work on the machines used for the improvement of the new target range, had to report to a headquarters on the south side of the road to Olschienen, opposite the installation, where he was dealt with by a Polish major who wore long dark-blue fabric trousers and a khaki blouse.² The new target range, which was constructed in the spring of 1953, was located about 3 kilometers northeast of Ortelsburg between the village of Lehmanen (R 54/A 03) and the Gr. Silvensee (lake).

1. Comment. The occupation of the barracks installations in Danzig which are mentioned in the present report apparently is still the same as observed in the summer of 1952. The information almost completely agrees with previous reports.
2. Comment. A previous report by another resettler stated that this installation is occupied by the tank SP regiment of the 15th Inf Div which is confirmed by the present report.

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